



# Bethany Bible Study & Discussion

## ACTS 27

### Paul's Voyage to Rome (Part-I)

Wednesdays  
7.30-8.30PM

**Ship #1 from Adramyttium (1-5):** Where is Paul headed and why? Who is traveling with Paul? What happens at Sidon? What route did the ship take and where did they end?

**Ship #2 of Alexandria (6-12):** Why was the ship taking detours? What was the ship carrying? What was Paul's warning? Why didn't Julius listen to Paul? How could Paul warn with confidence?

**Ship Caught in Storm: Consequence of disobeying Paul (13-20):** Did the ship have a smooth start? What caused the disruption? How did they respond to the storm? What was their conclusion?

**Paul's encouragement #1 (21-26)** Did Paul admonish them for disobeying him? How did Paul encourage them? What was the basis for his prophecy? What was Paul's witness?

**Paul stops ship crew from abandoning ship (27-32)** How long were they drifting in sea? Why does Paul stop crew? **Paul's encouragement #2 (33-38):** How does Paul encourage them? Are they encouraged? **Ship Destroyed (39-42):** What did the soldiers want to do and why? How did everyone reach safely on land? How many were saved? Where did they land?

**Personal Reflection:** *They all landed safely .... Do you continue to trust in Lord's promises when faced with shipwreck-type situations in life?*

Acts 27: Voyage to Italy

Acts: 27  
12.16.2020



# Ship #1 from Adramyttium (1-5)

Where is Paul headed and why?

Who is traveling with Paul?

What happens at Sidon?

What was the route and where did they end?

# Mission and fellow passengers on ship

- Where is Paul headed and why?
  - Rome, to appeal to Caesar
  - According to God's promise (23:11)
- Who is traveling with Paul?
  - Julius, Centurion
  - Luke
  - Aristarchus (Fellow soldier, Colossians 4:10)
  - Master and Owner of ship (11)
  - total = 276 (37)

- What happens at Sidon?
  - Paul given the freedom to meet with believers and refresh himself
- What was the route and where did they end?
  - Adramyttium → Sidon (got care from Christians) → lee of Cyprus → landed in Myra in Lycia

# Ship #2 of Alexandria

Why was the ship taking detours?

What was the ship carrying?

What was Paul's warning?

Why didn't Julius listen to Paul?

How could Paul warn with confidence?

## Why was the ship taking detours?

- The route of wind dictated by the wind

## What was the ship carrying?

- Cargo ship Going from Egypt to Italy
- Ship carrying grain (38)

# Paul's warning ignored

## What was Paul's warning?

- Sailing further will bring loss of ship and lives (10)

## Why didn't Julius listen to Paul?

- Maybe didn't have confidence in Paul
- Chose to listen to master and owner
- Fair Havens (in Crete) not the best place to halt for extended time in winter
- Plan to head to Phoenix, only 40 miles away

**Route** Cnidus → lee of Crete → Fair Havens ... to go further or stay? → Phoenix (12)

# Paul's confidence

## How could Paul warn with confidence?

- Spirit of God
  - Prior sailing experience
  - Not a practice to sail in winter months
  - II Corinthians 11:25 (three shipwrecks, in perils of waters)
- ✓ Phoenix is only 40 miles away so tempting to try ... even a mile outside of God's will is dangerous ... Sadly, Julius will find out (when it is too late)
- ✓ Let us listen to godly counsel and not sail against God's will



Acts 27: Voyage to Italy

# Ship Caught in Storm: Consequences of disobeying Paul (13-20)

Did the ship have a smooth start?

What caused the disruption? How did they respond to the storm?

What was their conclusion?

# Smooth start followed by storm

## Did the ship have a smooth start?

Yes (13) ... Gave them confidence to sail on but it did not last long!

- ✓ Smooth start does not imply we are in God's will ... finishing well is more important!

## What caused the disruption?

- Sailing smoothly along the coast but soon lost control to tempestuous wind, Euroclydon

# Response to the storm ...



- hosted lifeboats (17)
- Put ropes under the ship (to prevent ship from breaking) (18)
- lowered the sea anchor to act as a brake as they drifted (18)
- **lightened the ship**, throwing cargo overboard (18) threw ship's tackle/equipment overboard (19)
  - ✓ **when dying, we realize the true value of material things!** “For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it” (I Timothy 6:7, NIV)
  - ✓ **Missing**: Calling out to God (In times of crisis, we must learn to pray first)

# Hopeless situation (but Hope & Peace possible)

## What was their conclusion?

- In darkness ... Lost all hope of surviving (20)
- ✓ Only God can fill our hearts with hope and comfort in dark stormy situations of life

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by **prayer** and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the **peace** of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus

Philippians 4:6-7, NIV

# Paul's encouragement #1 (21-26)

Did Paul admonish them for disobeying him?

How did Paul encourage them?

What was the basis for his prophesy?

# Paul's encouragement

- **Did Paul admonish them for disobeying him?**
  - No, but reminds them of his prior warning (21)
  - ✓ It is good to remind of mistakes in the spirit of love (rather than condemnation).
  - ✓ When people are sinking, lift them up instead of discouraging and pushing them down.
- **How did Paul encourage them?**

“Be of Good Cheer” (22, 25) ... there will be NO LOSS of life
- **What was the basis for his prophecy?** His vision from Angel of God (23)

# Paul's testimony (23)

**I belong to God  
&  
I serve Him**

*How about us?*

“you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God ...”

I Corinthians 6:20

# Paul stops ship crew from abandoning ship (27-32)

How long were they drifting in sea?

What does fear prompt?

Why does Paul stop sailors?

# Crew trying to escape

- **How long were they drifting in sea?** Two weeks (27)
- **Why does Paul stop sailors?**
  - Needed the crew and soldiers for everyone to be saved (31)
  - Everyone listens to Paul this time ...lifeboats released (32)
  - Overtime, Paul has established his credibility and respect

# Paul's encouragement #2 (33-38):

How does Paul encourage them?  
Are they encouraged?

# Paul's encouragement

- **How does Paul encourage them?**

- Not eaten for two weeks
- Encouraged them to eat and not neglect health (34)
- Assured them that they will not die (not even a hair will fall) (34) (Mathew 10:30)
- Took bread, gives thanks, and eats (35)

- **Are they encouraged?)**

- Yes
- “all of good cheer” and ate (36)

# Ship Destroyed (39-42):

What did the soldiers want to do and why?

How did everyone reach safely on land?

How many were saved?

Where did they land?

# The shipwreck

40 Cutting loose the anchors, they left them in the sea and at the same time untied the ropes that held the rudders. Then they hoisted the foresail to the wind and made for the beach. <sup>41</sup> But the ship struck a sandbar and ran aground. The bow stuck fast and would not move, and the stern was broken to pieces by the pounding of the surf.

# Safe landing in stormy seas

- What did the soldiers want to do and why?
  - Soldiers wanted to kill the prisoners
  - If prisoners escape, soldiers will be killed as per Roman Law
  - Centurion intervenes and saves
- How did everyone reach safely on land?
  - Swimming or riding on planks from the destroyed ship
- How many were saved? All of them! ... 276! (verse 22)
- Where did they land? Melita (28:1)

# Personal Reflection

*They all landed safely ....*

*Do you continue to trust in Lord's promises  
when faced with shipwreck-type situations in life?*